



# St. Mary's Parish Comber

SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2023

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to seek the forgiveness of our sins, and to pray for the needs of the world, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

O Lord, open our lips, **and our mouth will proclaim your praise.**

Let us worship the Lord.

**All praise to his name.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, Creator of all, to you be glory and praise for ever. You founded the earth in the beginning and the heavens are the work of your hands. In the fulness of time, you made us in your image, and in these last days you have spoken to us in your Son Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. As we rejoice in the gift of your presence among us let the light of your love always shine in our hearts, your Spirit ever renew our lives and your praises ever be on our lips.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Blessed be God for ever.**

HYMN 523

**1** Help us to help each other, Lord,  
each other's cross to bear;  
let us our friendly aid afford  
and show our loving care.

**2** Help us to build each other up,  
out little stock improve;  
increase our faith, confirm our hope,  
and perfect us in love.

**3** Up into thee, our living Head,  
let us in all things grow,  
till thou hast made us free indeed,  
and spotless here below.

**4** Touched by the loadstone' of thy love,  
let all our hearts agree;  
and ever toward each other move,  
and ever move toward thee.

**5** To thee, inseparably joined,  
let all our spirits cleave;  
O may we all the loving mind\_  
that was in thee, receive.

**6** This is the bond of perfectness,  
thy spotless charity;  
O let us still, we pray, possess\_  
the mind that was in thee.

God our Father, we come to you in sorrow for our sins.  
For turning away from you, and ignoring your will for our lives;

Father, forgive us: **save us and help us.**

For behaving just as we wish, without thinking of you;

Father, forgive us: **save us and help us.**

For failing you by what we do, and think and say;

Father, forgive us: **save us and help us.**

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you  
by temptations in the world about us;

Father, forgive us: **save us and help us.**

For living as if we were ashamed to belong to your Son;

Father, forgive us: **save us and help us.**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins,  
and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Your word is a lantern to my feet  
**and a light upon our path.**

*c.f. Psalm 119:105*

O Lord, your word is everlasting:  
**it stands firm for ever in the heavens.**

*c.f. Psalm 119:89*

Let us then receive the word of the Lord.

**so may the light of your presence shine into our hearts.**

**1** The Church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
she is his new creation  
by water and the word:  
from heaven he came and sought her  
to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her,  
and for her life he died.

**2** Elect from every nation,  
yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation  
one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
one holy name she blesses,  
partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses  
with every grace endued.

**3** The world with scornful wonder  
may see her sore oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder,  
by heresies distressed;  
yet saints their watch are keeping,  
their cry goes up, 'How long?';  
and soon the night of weeping  
shall be the morn of song.

**4** 'Mid toil and tribulation,  
and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation  
of peace for evermore;  
till with the vision glorious  
her longing eyes are blessed,  
and the great Church victorious  
shall be the Church at rest.

**5** Yet she on earth has union  
with God the Three-in-One,  
and mystic sweet communion  
with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we,  
like them the meek and lowly,  
on high may dwell with thee.

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ,  
who redeemed mankind?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit  
who gives life to the people of God?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith. we believe and trust in One God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

## PRAYERS

Let us bring before God our prayers of intercession and commitment:

Blessed are you, eternal God, **to be praised and glorified for ever.**

Hear us as we pray for your holy Church throughout the world:

**make us all one, that the world may believe.**

Grant that every member of the Church

may truly and humbly serve you:

**that the life of Christ may be revealed in us.**

Strengthen all who minister in Christ's name:

**give them courage to proclaim your Gospel.**

Inspire and lead those who hold authority

in the nations of the world:

**guide them in the ways of justice and peace.**

Make us alive to the needs of our community:

**help us to share each other's joys and burdens.**

Look with kindness on our homes and families:

**grant that your love may grow in our hearts.**

Deepen our compassion

for all who suffer from sickness, grief or trouble:

**in your presence may they find their strength.**

We remember those who have died:

**Father, into your hands we have entrusted them.**

We praise you for all your saints who have entered your eternal glory:

**bring us all to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Hear our prayer, Lord God

**and make us one in heart and mind**

**to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.**

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles,  
Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you:  
look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church,  
and grant it the peace and unity of your kingdom;  
where you are alive and reign with the Father  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, we pray:  
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## HYMN 518

*Bind us together, Lord, bind us together  
with cords that cannot be broken.  
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together  
O bind us together with love.*

**1** There is only one God.  
There is only one King.  
There is only one body;  
that is why we sing.

**2** Made for the glory of God,  
purchased by his precious Son.  
Born with the right to be clean,  
for Jesus the vict'ry has won.

**3** We are the fam'ly of God.  
We are the promise divine.  
We are God's chosen desire.  
We are the glorious new wine.

## A THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, Holy God, creator, redeemer and life-giver;  
you have spoken the world into being and filled it with wonder and beauty.  
For every blessing we have received **we give you thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Holy God, for people of every language and culture  
and for the rich variety you give to life.  
For every blessing we have received **we give you thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Holy God, for Jesus Christ our Saviour, truly divine  
and truly human, living and dying for us, and going before us into heaven.  
For every blessing we have received **we give you thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Holy God, for your Spirit,  
the fire of love burning in our hearts, bringing us to faith,  
and calling us to holiness in the Church and in the world.  
For every blessing we have received **we give you thanks and praise.**

## THE DISMISSAL

We go into the world  
**to walk in God's light, to rejoice in God's love  
and to reflect God's glory.**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing; and the blessing  
of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and  
remain with you always. **Amen.**

<sup>4</sup> The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>5</sup> ‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew<sup>[a]</sup> you,  
before you were born I set you apart;  
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.’

<sup>6</sup> ‘Alas, Sovereign Lord,’ I said, ‘I do not know how to speak; I am too young.’

<sup>7</sup> But the Lord said to me, ‘Do not say, “I am too young.” You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. <sup>8</sup> Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,’ declares the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, ‘I have put my words in your mouth. <sup>10</sup> See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.’

<sup>14</sup> After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. <sup>15</sup> ‘The time has come,’ he said. ‘The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!’

<sup>16</sup> As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> ‘Come, follow me,’ Jesus said, ‘and I will send you out to fish for people.’ <sup>18</sup> At once they left their nets and followed him.

<sup>19</sup> When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. <sup>20</sup> Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

## Notes

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